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U.S. PROPOSAL EVASION OF SOVIET TEST BAN OFFER

LD151046 Moscow TASS International Service in Russian 1022 GMT 15 Mar 86

[Text] Washington March 15 TASS -- The White House has said that President Reagan has put forward a proposal on the limitation of nuclear testing. Yet this proposal, which the White House described as highly specific and far reaching, has proved, in the opinion of political observers, to be a new U.S. political maneuver aimed at evading a concrete answer to the Soviet Union's proposal on ending all nuclear testing.

Reagan's proposal is of a very limited character and concerns only technical problems of "verification" of the Treaty on the Limitation on Underground Nuclear Weapons Tests and the Treaty on Underground Nuclear Explosions for Peaceful Purposes. These treaties were concluded between the USSR and the United States in 1974 and 1976 respectively, but have not been ratified so far, by no means through the Soviet side's fault.

Moreover, it follows from the White House statement that the United States is planning to conduct a new nuclear weapons test in Nevada in the third week of April. To camouflage its obviously negative stand on ending all nuclear explosions, the U.S. Administration has again resorted to the already familiar propaganda gimmick, by proposing that the Soviet Union send its scientists to watch these tests.

The Soviet Union, as known, is in favor of verifying [kontrol] the cessation of nuclear explosions, but it is against the cessation of tests being substituted by their continuation in the presence of observers. Disarmament without verification [kontrol] is impossible, but verification [kontrol] without disarmament makes no sense either.

14 MAR FOREIGN MINISTRY PRESS CONFERENCE REPORTED

PM161509 Moscow KRASNAYA ZVEZDA in Russian 15 Mar 86 Second Edition p 5

[TASS report: "End Nuclear Tests; Moscow Press Conference"]

[Text] A press conference for Soviet and foreign journalists was held at the USSR Foreign Ministry Press Center 14 March in connection with the reply by M.S. Gorbachev, general secretary of the CPSU Central Committee, to the joint message from the leaders of Argentina, India, Mexico, Tanzania, Sweden, and Greece on the question of ending nuclear tests. The press conference was chaired by V.G. Komplektov, USSR deputy foreign minister; V.F. Petrovskiy, member of the USSR Foreign Ministry Collegium; Academician M.A. Sadovskiy, director of the USSR Academy of Sciences Earth Physics Institute; Colonel General N.F. Chervov, chief of a USSR Armed Forces General Staff Directorate; and V.V. Lomeyko, chief of the USSR Foreign Ministry Press Section.

The press conference opening statement stated that the appeals by prestigious figures from countries in various continents to the Soviet and U.S. leadership on urgent questions of the day have been a significant factor in international life promoting the arrangement and development of extensive dialogue in the world.

The Soviet Union makes a high assessment of the activity of the influential figures in the six countries who, through their efforts, are promoting an improvement in the international situation and the quest for mutually acceptable accords in the interests of security for all.

The correspondents' attention was drawn first and foremost to the fact that, in response to the appeal from the leaders of the six countries addressed to the USSR and the United States not to conduct any nuclear tests in the period prior to the next Soviet-U.S. summit, the Soviet Union states that it will not conduct any nuclear explosions even after 31 March -- until the first nuclear explosion in the United States. The Soviet Union is thereby demonstrating its highly responsible attitude to the problem of a nuclear test ban. It is now up to the U.S. Administration, to which the appeal to join the moratorium is primarily addressed.

Not conducting tests means putting a stop to the improvement of nuclear weapons and starting practical movement toward their complete and universal elimination. If there is a real desire for this goal there can be no reason for not taking that step.

Not conducting nuclear explosions -- which it is proposed to start in practice with a joint Soviet-U.S. moratorium -- is seen by us as a radical solution to the problem of nuclear weapons tests. The USSR, as M.S. Gorbachev stressed in his reply to the message, attaches great importance to drawing up an agreement on the complete and final resolution of this problem in international law and proposes embarking on the elaboration of a corresponding treaty on a bilateral, trilateral, or multilateral basis with no linkage to any other questions.

The provision of adequate verification [kontrol] of the observance of accords on ending nuclear weapons tests is, the USSR believes, of particular importance. And the Soviet Union, as is well known, is decisively in favor of such verification, and the most strict verification at that. We have already suggested to the U.S. side that meetings between experts from the two countries be arranged in order to elaborate the relevant procedures for the reciprocal nonconducting of nuclear explosions.

At the same time the leaders of the "six" were informed that the Soviet Union is prepared to make use of their proposal -- if adopted by the U.S. side -- to provide assistance in monitoring [proverka] the ending of nuclear tests, including on-site inspection [inspektsiya].

The Soviet Union sees the ending of all nuclear weapons tests as one of the most important elements in shaping the comprehensive international security system whose fundamental basis was formulated by the 27th CPSU Congress. The ideas expressed in the appeal by the leaders of the six countries on universal security without nuclear weapons are very much in accordance with the Soviet concept of creating such an international security sustem. The hope was expressed that the U.S. Government will show political realism, assume a constructive stance, and respond positively to the peoples' demands to end nuclear tests.

The press conference participants replied to numerous questions from journalists.

Question: The proposals on specific questions aimed at ending the arms race contained in the message from the leaders of the "Delhi Six" are linked with the idea of creating a concept of universal security without nuclear weapons. Is there any similarity here with the Soviet approach to the problem of creating a comprehensive international security system?

Answer: The ideas expressed in the message from the leaders of the six countries about universal security without nuclear weapons are very much in accordance with the concept of the creation of a comprehensive international security system set forth in the CPSU Central Committee Political Report to the 27th party congress. Among other aspects uniting our approaches to this problem is the common understanding of the need to end all nuclear weapons tests and eliminate nuclear weapons entirely.

The fundamental basis of this system in the military, political, economic, and humanitarian spheres set forth in the Political Report offers broad scope for productive activity by all governments, parties, and social organizations and movements. It creates a framework for direct, open, and systematic dialogue among the leaders of the countries of the world community. It seems to us that the activity of the authors of the "Delhi Declaration" in this regard is a weighty contribution to the creation of an international security system and we are prepared to continue and develop a useful dialogue with them.

Question: One's attention is drawn to the fact that M.S. Gorbachev's reply also proposes bilateral talks alongside trilateral and multilateral talks on the total prohibition of nuclear tests. Is this seemingly a new element in the USSR's position? Could you explain what is in mind?

Answer: Yes, it is a new element. We are now proposing -- alongside trilateral and multilateral talks, to which we continue to attach great importance -- bilateral Soviet-U.S. talks on questions concerning the problems of the complete ending of nuclear tests. It has been officially proposed to the U.S. side that the talks should start this April in Moscow, Washington, or Geneva. As you can see, we are prepared to hold talks in any form. It is important to get moving on the problem of ending tests. The Soviet Union and the United States can and must set an example in this. We have informed the U.S. side that A.M. Petrosyants, chairman of the USSR State Committee for the Utilization of Atomic Energy, will head the Soviet delegation at the talks.

Question: In advocating the ending of nuclear weapons tests, is not the Soviet Union trying to reinforce its superiority over the United States in the sphere of the creation and improvement of nuclear weapons?

Answer: That could be said if it were not the Soviet Union but the United States that was lagging behind in the sphere of nuclear weapons tests. However, the facts show the opposite. According to figures from the Swedish Defense Research Institute, since 1945 the United States has tested one-third more nuclear devices than the USSR, and 50 percent more if the other Western powers are included.

Question: People in the West, particularly the United States, are voicing doubts about the possibility of verifying [kontrol] the nonconducting of nuclear tests. They say that the Soviet Union, while paying lip service to the importance of verification [kontrol], is actually not prepared to accede to it on Soviet territory. What can you say on that score?

Answer: Both these allegations do not correspond to reality. Our country is no less interested in the reliability and strictness of verification [kontrol] than anyone else. Be it verification [kontrol] using national technical means or international means. As long as it is verification [kontrol] of the observance of specific accords. In short, the USSR is open to verification [kontrol].

But I would like to draw attention to the fact that the entire territory of the Soviet Union is surrounded by stations set up by the United States or under its leadership. They number approximately 200 as against our approximately 20. That is, a 10:1 ratio. The Soviet Union agrees to maintain reciprocal verification [kontrol] even under these conditions. We believe that our 20 stations are sufficient in order to monitor nuclear tests carried out beyond our borders. We have yet to miss any tests. Do 200 U.S. stations with an incredible amount of top-notch equipment really function worse than 20 of our stations? The Americans themselves have written that the system currently in existence in the world is entirely adequate for recording all underground nuclear explosions, even low-level ones.

So the only thing that could prevent verification [kontrol] being organized is the clear reluctance on the U.S. side. Back in 1958 agreed conditions were drawn up whereby the Americans, British, French, and ourselves endorsed [podpisalis v] the possibility of guaranteeing the detection of all nuclear explosions that might take place. And then began a 28-year period of foot-dragging. There is no other description for it.

Replies were also given to journalists' other questions.

Further Report

LD141545 Moscow TASS in English 1536 GMT 14 Mar 86

[Text] Moscow March 14 TASS -- In connection with the unilateral moratorium on nuclear explosions announced by the Soviet side, we have twice named the timeframe for its operations, but a positive response from the USA came in neither case, said Viktor Komplektov, USSR deputy foreign minister. He spoke today in the Press Centre of the USSR Foreign Ministry at a press conference on the question of ending nuclear tests.

Having refrained from explosions for a relatively long time, the Soviet Union has paid a certain price, both militarily and economically. In these conditions, we cannot extend the moratorium indefinitely, without considering the stand of the USA, the deputy minister said.

Therefore, the question of the further destiny of the moratorium now hinges on the USA, on whether the U.S. Administration is capable of showing political will. Meanwhile, our stand is absolutely clear: We wish that there should be no nuclear explosions, that the problem of banning nuclear testing be resolved fully and ultimately.

ARTICLE VIEWS END OF STOCKHOLM CDE SESSION

PM151721 Moscow PRAVDA in Russian 15 Mar 86 First Edition p 4

[Own correspondent M. Kostikov report: "Stockholm: Time Will Not Wait"]

[Text] Stockholm, 14 Mar -- The latest session of the Conference on Confidence and Security Building Measures and Disarmament in Europe is drawing to a close in the Swedish capital. It has taken place in the conditions of an active peace offensive by the Soviet Union and the other socialist countries. The 15 January 1986 statement by M.S. Gorbachev, general secretary of the CPSU Central Committee, a number of whose provisions are directly relevant to the confidence and among other things to the disentangling of unresolved problems, the CPSU Central Committee Political Report to the 27th CPSU Congress and the idea that it puts forward of creating an all-embracing system of international security -- all this has been at the center of the forum participants' attention. After all, a significant proportion of the new Soviet initiatives relate directly to Europe.

The participants in the Stockholm forum -- that offspring of the all-European process that begin in Helsinki -- are called upon to erect lasting barriers to close every opportunity for the use of force and for covert preparations for war and to ensure the growth of mutual trust. These aims are served by the package of large-scale complementary confidence and security building measures put forward at the conference by the Soviet Union and the other socialist countries.

Among these measures, special significance is attached to the "Basic Principles of a Treaty on the Mutual Nonuse of Military Force and on Maintaining Relations of Peace," submitted by the Soviet delegation. This document focuses attention on the most important thing -- the need to adopt a commitment not to be the first to use either nuclear or conventional arms against each other, and thus not to use military force against each other at all.

Despite the prolonged opposition of the delegations of the United States and a number of its NATO allies, the discussion of this proposal became one of the main components of the Stockholm forum. An important role was played in this by the position of the neutral and nonaligned countries. Their draft document notes, in particular: The states participating in the Helsinki process will refrain in their mutual relations and in international relations in general from use of force -- direct or indirect -- and will adhere strictly and effectively to the principle of nonuse of force as a law of international life. Representatives of certain NATO countries spoke in the same vein, and insisted that the principle should be made more concrete and extended, while the representative of Cyprus, on the instructions of the group of neutral and nonaligned countries, submitted a proposal for the adoption of a declaration of a politically binding nature banning the use of force in any form.

In the course of the Soviet-American summit meeting in Geneva, as is known, the two countries' leaders expressed the intention, together with the other states participating in the Stockholm conference, of promoting its speediest successful completion. As is enshrined in the joint Soviet-American statement, the two sides reaffirmed the need to adopt a document both incorporating mutually acceptable confidence and security building measures and giving concrete form and effectiveness to the principle of the nonuse of force. That is how things were in Geneva. Unfortunately, things are different now in Stockholm. At the conference table, the American delegation is still seeking to avoid the crux of this question. It makes farfetched references to the UN Charter and the provisions of the Helsinki Final Act. Or else it tries to substitute purely military-technical measures for the resolution of this question.

But one thing is no substitute for the other. Military confidence-building measures are directly dependent on and interconnected with political measures, that is, on the adoption of commitments not to use force. In this sphere too major issues are at stake. They include the limitation of the scale of military exercises, preliminary notification of major exercises of ground, naval, and air forces and troop movements and shipments, the inviting of observers, and a number of other measures. The socialist countries' proposals in this sphere take into account to a great extent the position of other states, including the neutral and nonaligned states.

Against the background of the range of large-scale political and military confidence-building measures formulated by the socialist countries' delegations, the NATO package of proposals looks meager and frankly inadequate. It is a question of an extremely narrow approach to military-technical questions and an attempt to secure unilateral advantages, using all kinds of truths and untruths.

Many of the so-called proposals of the United States and the NATO countries are no more than half-measures. Others only create an appearacne. Both are directly contrary, by their nature, to the conference's mandate, which provides for equality of rights, balance and reciprocity, and identical respect for the security interests of all the participating states.

The following fact is noteworthy in the Stockholm forum's work. Throughout its course the socialist countries' proposals have been added to and made more concrete many times. The same is true of the participation of the group of neutral and nonaligned countries. They promoted a rapprochement in the positions of East and West. The NATO package on the other hand, remains unchanged. It is frozen, so to speak, and it really exudes cold. Only the tactics change: From the initial frank rejection of the socialist countries' proposals, the opponents of an agreement are going over to various kinds of procrastination and propaganda tricks.

The failure to resolve the question of notification about major exercises of ground forces, fleets, and air forces is also seriously retarding the attainment of concrete accords at the conference. The USSR has proposed that this problem be resolved, if not comprehensively, then piece by piece. Agreement could be reached now on notifications of major ground and air force exercises. The question of naval activity could be carried over to the next stage of the conference. This practical approach was greeted with satisfaction by the majority of participants.

As for the United States and a number of its allies, their verbal show of "constructiveness" conceals a stubborn reluctance to move at all. There is evidence of a desire to change nothing in their own position, and even to harden it. And to present the Soviet proposals in a false light. Evidence of this is provided by a public statement by R. Barry, head of the U.S. delegation, who not only tried to misrepresent the essence of the USSR's proposals, but also attempted to convince his listeners that the results of the conference will be based wholly on the NATO package.

The conference has now embarked on work to draw up the formulations and individual provisions of the concluding document. This work is taking place in five working groups with the help of coordinators from the neutral and nonaligned countries. Here the U.S. delegation's obstructionist approach is again making itself felt. The coordinator's very first attempt to bring the sides' positions closer together confirmed this. The United States and some of its allies are still not ready seriously to set about resolving the main tasks of the Stockholm conference. This is indicated by the principle of thier participation in the activity of the working groups. Previously, for more than 6 months they were submitting their proposals for examination by the conference piece by piece. Then they stuck them together as some kind of "package" and ceremoniously publicized them as a single document. Now they are cutting it up into pieces again and presenting them for discussion by the working groups, with no changes at all.

All the same, it is possible today to speak of some progress at the conference. The first formulations for possible inclusion in the draft concluding document have been laid down. But these -- it must be said frankly -- relate only to secondary issues and do not touch on the crux of the problems.

... The United States and its NATO allies are dragging out the time in Stockholm. The peoples of Europe cannot agree to such an approach. They expect concrete, large-scale measures from the conference toward confidence and security building and disarmament. Time will not wait. The end of the present stage -- 19 September -- is not far off.

DUBININ REPLACES TROYANOVSKIY AS UN REPRESENTATIVE

LD141457 Moscow TASS International Service in Russian 1440 GMT 14 Mar 86

[Text] Moscow, 14 Mar (TASS) -- The USSR Supreme Soviet Presidium has appointed Yuriy Dubinin as the permanent representative of the USSR at the United Nations and as the USSR representative at the UN Security Council.

Oleg Troyanovskiy, who occupied this post, has been relieved of his duties in connection with his transfer to other work.

UN LEGAL COUNSEL CALLS U.S. DEMANDS 'UNPRECEDENTED'

PM151515 Moscow PRAVDA in Russian 15 Mar 86 First Edition p 5

[TASS report: "An Arbitrary Position Is Intolerable: Condemnation for the Unprecedented U.S. Act"]

[Text] New York, 14 Mar -- A session of the UN Committee on Relations With the Host Country -- the United States -- was urgently convened at UN headquarters to discuss the hostile new U.S. act regarding permanent missions of the USSR, the Belorussian SSR, and the Ukrainian SSR to the United Nations. The participants condemn Washington's act as a gross violation by the United States of its commitments under the agreement on the UN central agencies and international law and as an attempt to make the activity of the UN states and the organization itself more difficult.

The arbitrary position adopted by the U.S. Administration with regard to the missions of other states accredited to the United Nations is illegal and is directed against the United Nations as a whole and against the rights of all its member states, V.S. Safronchuk, acting permanent representative of the USSR to the United Nations, stated. The U.S. claims to arrogate to itself the right to lay down the numbers of personnel of states' permanent missions to the United Nations as completely impermissible and unacceptable. Nothing in the existing international agreements, among them the 1947 agreement on the UN central agencies, gives the U.S. Government the right to impose numerical restrictions on the personnel of the permanent missions, which are not accredited to the U.S. Government, but to be United Nations. The presence of the United Nations in New York and its rights and privileges are not based on the kindness of the U.S. Administrations, but on an international agreement concluded between the United States and the UN, from which quite clear and definite U.S. commitments arise -- to ensure the necessary conditions for the normal activity of the United Nations and the unhindered participation of the member states in the organization's work.

The provocative U.S. act is not an isolated episode, the Soviet representative went on to say. It reflects the general U.S. approach to the activity of international organizations, an approach which has emerged particularly clearly in recent years. The United States would like to make it unambiguously clear to all countries, first and foremost the small and developing countries, that it intends to adopt repressive measures toward those states and their UN missions if Washington does not like their policy. All this is correctly seen by the international community as a line aimed at undermining the existing system of international organizations and fettering their efforts to develop relations of peace and cooperation among peoples, and as an attempt to place international mechanisms and institutions under U.S. diktat. It therefore cannot be seen as a coincidence that the reaction to this act takes the form of questions being raised about the appropriateness of UN headquarters being located in a country which does not fulfill its commitments to the organization.

The United States claims that it does not want this measure to have an unfavorable effect on joint Soviet-U.S. attempts to consolidate the progress achieved at the meeting held last November between M.S. Gorbachev, general secretary of the CPSU Central Committee, and U.S. President R. Reagan, the USSR representative said in conclusion. It is deeply regrettable that its practical actions indicate the opposite, and the Soviet side cannot ignore such unlawful U.S. actions and will draw the appropriate conclusions for itself.

Carl-August Fleischauer, UN under secretary general for legal affairs and UN legal adviser, described the U.S. act. He said it was unprecedented in UN history, unilateral, and taken in violation of the agreement on the UN central agencies. Familiarizing the committee with the results of the legal analysis of this act, Fleischauer pointed out that there has been no case in UN practice of the host country trying to establish limits on the numbers or to reduce the numbers of personnel accredited not to its government, but to UN missions. The agreement on the UN central agencies, the legal adviser stressed, makes neither direct nor indirect provision for the renunciation of the principle of collective efforts in the examination of disagreements which occur. The UN secretary general, he noted, has therefore expressed readiness even at this stage to give assistance for the sides to hold such consultations.

The legal adviser's opinion and the appeal of the UN secretary general were supported by practically all who spoke at the session -- the representatives of Bulgaria, Iraq, France, Senegal, the PRC, Spain, and Canada. The hostile and arbitrary U.S. act causes deep concern and indignation among the UN member states, B. Isvetkov, Bulgarian permanent representative to the United Nations, stated. It is a question of an escalation of an unacceptable and extremely dangerous policy of illegal measures aimed at complicating the conditions for the activity of the missions of many sovereign states belonging to the United Nations, including Bulgaria, and an attempt to undermine the effectiveness and prestige of the United Nations.

The U.S. representative made a groundless attempt to extricate himself and justify the illegal act, which has aroused a storm of indignation at the United Nations. He referred with cynical scorn to the United Nations and to the decisions and resolutions adopted by that major international organizations, speaking of them as "pieces of paper."

The committee will continue its discussion of the flagrantly arbitrary and illegal U.S. act.

CPSU CONGRESS FOREIGN POLICY APPEAL VIEWED

PM131611 Moscow SOVETSKAYA ROSSIYA in Russian 11 Mar 86 First Edition p 1

[Editorial: "Peace Strategy"]

[Text] For 10 days in February and March the attention of the entire world was riveted on Moscow and the Kremlin Palace of Congresses. There was no corner of the globe where people -- some with hope, others with poorly concealed irritation -- did not listen to the voices of Moscow. Of course, those whose sympathies lie with the ideals and thoughts expressed at the Soviet Communists' congress are by far in the majority. And this is natural. Mankind has fittingly appraised the world significance of the 27th CPSU Congress, calling it an event of historic proportions. Now, when the contemporary world has reached a sudden turning point, all Soviet people and millions of the world's inhabitants welcomed with profound satisfaction the honest, realistic, humane, and comprehensively considered program of action adopted by the congress.

How can we save civilization and preserve life on earth? How can we neutralize the threat emanating from imperialism? How can we stop the world from sliding into the nuclear abyss? How can we keep space unsullied?

Sensible ideas on these difficult problems, clear, intelligent proposals, and a great sense of responsibility have aroused people's fervent approval and gratitude -- people living on all the earth's continents. People the world over wholeheartedly welcomed the strong, impassioned, and very sincere appeal for peace made at the Soviet Communists' forum.

The existence of two socioeconomic systems is a reality of our era. It is clear to all sober-minded people in the world that this reality cannot be ignored. It is also clear that our enemies' view of socialism as a "historical error" has in no way been able to halt the ongoing progress of social development. A policy of total antagonism and military confrontation, as was firmly stressed in the CPSU Central Committee Political Report to the party congress, has no future. We threaten no one, but we will not renounce our principles and ideals one iota either. With regard to the mythical communist threat, today it is clear even to the most naive person that this myth has been created to justify imperialism's aggressiveness. Fewer and fewer people believe this decrepit myth -- on the contrary, a large section of mankind pins its hopes of life without war on the Soviet Union's consistent struggle against the nuclear danger hanging over the world.

Thorough analysis of the most important group of contradictions connected with relations between states with different systems, as of all the other contradictions of this alarming phase in our history, provides a clear picture of the reality of the contemporary era and of ways of avoiding crisis situations. And this analysis made at the congress will, without doubt, help millions of people on earth to understand the essence of historical development processes.

Will the ruling centers of capital be able to embark on the path of sober, constructive evaluation of events? The peoples await an answer to this question. "We cannot accept 'no' as the answer to the following question: Is mankind to be or not to be?" M.S. Gorbachev said in the CPSU Central Committee Political Report. "We say: social progress and the existence of civilization must and will continue."

The optimism and realism characteristic of communists determine our entire strategy -- a strategy of defending peace and eliminating the threat of war. Its main aim is totally clear -- to guarantee the Soviet people the possibility of working in conditions of peace and freedom. Fulfilling this program demand on our foreign policy primarily means stopping material preparation for nuclear war.

"The USSR's proposal to implement a program to free mankind from nuclear weapons by the year 2000 is not simply a very bold step: It is feasible, if it becomes the vital cause of peace-loving forces throughout the world." These words were spoken from the congress rostrum by Jorgen Jensen, chairman of the Communist Party of Denmark.

Yes, the time has come for strenuous action. The impassioned appeal for peace heard from Moscow is being backed up and supported in all four corners of the earth. Psychological reorientation is necessary in order to comprehend the call for action. Even those who still console themselves with illusions and the hope that everything will somehow sort itself out are beginning to understand the realities of our world -- a world too fragile for policies of strength. Saving the world and mankind is impossible without making a final break with the type of ideas and actions which have formed over the centuries on the basis of the permissibility of war. This is one of the most important conclusions drawn by the 27th CPSU Congress.

Almost 2 months have passed since that January day when the teletypes in Moscow sent out the text of the statement by M.S. Gorbachev, general secretary of the CPSU Central Committee. For the first time a program of specific, tangible actions, strictly calculated in terms of time, was formulated. Ardent support for the Soviet peace program -- a program that has met with the fervent approval of millions of people throughout the world -- came across again and again from the congress rostrum, in the speeches of the delegates and guests.

The guests spoke on behalf of their parties and peoples, who had authorized them to say 'yes' in Moscow, a city where the appeal for peace has rung out powerfully and passionately; 'Yes', the elimination of nuclear weapons is the most urgent problem today. Now it is up to the United States.

The "linkages," "conditions," and various reservations of Western politicians, who are virtually blocking any solution to vital disarmament issues, rightly arouse people's anger. Of the streams of letters sent to the editor during the congress, letters fervently in support of our party's foreign policy strategy, we will cite two: from women living at different ends of Europe.

"My father was killed at Leningrad in 1943," T. Yakusheva, from the Bashkir city of Sterlitamak, writes. "I know my mother's grief. It is beyond measure. At the age of 24, my mother was left alone with young children. We lost 12 relatives in the last war. And I do not want the tragedy to be repeated. That is why I vote for M.S. Gorbachev's 15 January statement and for the congress decisions. And I want my voice to be heard by all mothers of the world."

Here is the second letter: "My relatives died in Lidice, a mining settlement which the fascists razed to the ground. I know how many other Lidices there were across your country. And I bow to the victims of misanthropy, barbarity, and aggression. More than 4 decades have passed since those tragic days. How many lives have been taken over these years by new wars and conflicts! In the fifties in Korea; in the seventies in Vietnam. Today in southern Africa, the Middle East, and Latin America. People are dying as a result of conflicts which benefit only those who are afraid of losing their profits. It is they who think up various conditions and tricks. I am grateful to your party for its sense of responsibility, its humanism, and the determination with which you are saving peace."

This letter was written by a Czech woman, Gusta Karelova, living in central Europe.

Europe's chance in history and its future, it was noted at the congress, lie in peaceful cooperation between the states of the old continent. Our movement toward mature detente and toward creating reliable security on the basis of Helsinki process and a radical reduction in nuclear and conventional weapons is in Europeans' vital interests.

Our foreign policy, which is a continuation of our domestic policy, demonstrates the vast potential of peace, reason, and goodwill. The presence of party leaders from the fraternal socialist countries at the congress; their speeches in the Kremlin Palace of Congresses; their cordial meetings with our country's working people; their friendly talks with M.S. Gorbachev, general secretary of the CPSU Central Committee; and their appraisals and thoughts expressed during meetings, talks, and speeches on their return to their homelands attest to our increasingly strong comradeship and to our desire to share experience, take mutual advantage of our friends' good advice, and make our cooperation closer. To make skillful use of all that is best and progressive and at the disposal of our states and peoples means bringing into play vast additional capital which will be of perceptible benefit and strengthen the economic might of the entire socialist community. The store of fresh, interesting ideas is open to friends, and not only in the economic sphere. Cooperation has taken strong hold of every sphere in the fraternal countries, every level of their social structures, and acquired a truly national nature.

Yes, today, as stressed in the 27th congress resolution on the CPSU Central Committee Political Report, the fate of peace and social progress are more closely connected than ever before with the dynamism of the world socialist system's economic and political development. The congress considered adoption of the Integrated Program for the CEMA Countries' Scientific and Technical Progress to be a matter of particular significance. An innovative, enterprising approach to the problems of socialist economic integration is becoming a decisive factor in the work of the CEMA countries.

The Soviet Communists' congress favored a comradely exchange of opinions and honest, open relations with all states in the world socialist system. "The party strives for stable, comradely relations and multilateral cooperation between the USSR and all states in the world socialist system." So it is recorded in the CPSU Program.

Our party welcomes every step along the path of bringing socialist states closer together and every positive change in relations between them. The congress noted with satisfaction certain improvements in relations with our country's great neighbor -- socialist China.

The communist movement is diverse. But its diversity is not a synonym for dislocation. While confirming our aspiration to unity among the world's communists, we stress the principle of noninterference by some parties in the affairs of others.

The Central Committee Political Report puts forth the principled foundations for forming an all-embracing international security system. On behalf of the CPSU, the congress appealed to governments, parties, social organizations and movements concerned with the fate of peace and to all peoples. The 27th CPSU Congress called for cooperation in the great battle against war.

Days pass, months and years rush swiftly by, making an event that we have recently experienced a part of history. But, every day after the closing of the congress, the world will be able to feel the pulse of goodwill emanating from Moscow.

The foreign press continues to publish numerous commentaries and editorials evaluating the impact of the congress ideas on the course of world events. "We rely on historical experience and on collaboration with the great Soviet country," Bulgaria's RABOTNICHESKO DELO writes editorially.

The great interest in our congress and its decisions shown by the broad masses of the world public forces even many bourgeois information media to give an objective appraisal of the Soviet Communist forum. Britain's THE OBSERVER, for example, notes: "There is no reason to doubt the frankness of M.S. Gorbachev's proposals or his sincere desire to cast off not only the burden of 'star wars' but also the burden of the arms race in general. To understand this it is sufficient to just take a look at the gigantic scale of the socioeconomic changes which the Soviet leader proposed to the congress." The 27th CPSU Congress adopted decisions oriented toward the future. It confirmed the prospect, outlined by the Soviet Union, of mankind freed from nuclear weapons. There is only one truth. And this truth, our humanism, and the appeal for reason and action heard in Moscow will, without doubt, reach every inhabitant of our planet.

IZVESTIYA ON 'HISTORIC' USSR INTERNATIONAL GOALS

PM141040 Moscow IZVESTIYA in Russian 13 Mar 86 Morning Edition p 1

[Editorial: "The 27th CPSU Congress on the USSR's Foreign Policy"]

[Text] History consists not only of the past but also of the future. Is that not what the expression the "makers of history" means? The makers of history are the creators of the future. The 27th CPSU Congress was historic primarily because it was conducted by a party which has its sights set on the future and is fully determined to make that future peaceful. Progress in the 20th century is correctly connected with socialism. World socialism is a mighty international formation. Its ideal is a world without wars or weapons. Socialism has transformed that world, considered to be a utopia for thousands of years, into a realistically attainable goal.

The mere fact that the goal is attainable does not mean that it will be easy. Particularly in present-day conditions, when imperialism represents a growing threat to mankind's very existence. Militarism is imperialism's most grotesque progeny. Imperialism, which was first to use nuclear weapons, is preparing now to take a new and possibly irreversible step -- that of transferring the arms race into space or, in other words, training its sights on the whole planet.

The qualitatively new scale and character of the threat facing mankind have set it incredibly difficult problems. The vital and urgent requirement authoritatively dictates the need for a new understanding of the conditions that have been created and a new kind of thinking. The 27th CPSU Congress provides the most vivid example of that kind of thinking. The analysis on that basis of the character and scale of the nuclear threat has enabled our party to formulate a conclusion of great theoretical and practical importance; namely, that in the international arena objective conditions have taken shape in which the confrontation between captialism and socialism can take place solely and exclusively in the forms of peaceful competition and peaceful rivalry.

On that basis, the congress instructed the Central Committee to work consistently, systematically, and persistently for the resolution of international security problems, directing the Soviet Union's foreign policy toward the strict pursuit of the course of peaceful coexistence, firmness in defense of our principles and positions tactical flexibiltiy, readiness for mutually acceptable compromises, and orientation toward dialogue and mutual understanding. The congress stressed the need for the further activation of Soviet foreign policy in all spheres, the search for a just and peaceful settlement of the causes of tension, and the development of good-neighborly mutuallybeneficial relations with all states.

One of the world press' many reactions to the 27th CPSU Congress expressed deep respect and even admiration for the way in which "Soviet Communists are able to keep their ear to the ground and hear the footsteps of history." Yes, our finger is on the pulse of history. Yes, we keep our ear fixed to the planet's heart. Yes, we hear and understand its beat. Furthermore, we are doing everything in our power to make that heartbeat calm and steady.

The principled "Basic Principles for the Creation of an All-Embracing System of International Security" put forward in the CentralCommittee's Political Report is the translation into the language of poli[illegible]l realities of mankind's instinct for self-preservation. Using these basic principles as a guide, it would be possible to turn peaceful coexistence into the supreme universal principle of international relations. Our party, the party of Lenin and the future, the party of Lenin and peace, addressed an appeal from the lofty congress platform to all governments, parties, and social organizations and movements really concerned about the fate of peace on earth. Our party appealed to all the peoples inhabiting the world to cooperate more closely and productively to achieve success in the battle against war, success which will be a historic victory for all mankind and for each person on our planet.

The lofty moral and spiritual tone of the CPSU's activity was also fully manifested in the congress' international aspects. The resolution adopted by the congress on the CPSU Central Committee's Political Report says that "the main goal of the CPSU's foreign policy strategy is to provide the Soviet people with the opportunity to work in conditions of lasting peace and freedom. For that reason the struggle against the nuclear danger and the arms race and for the preservation and strengthening of universal peace must continue in the future to be the main direction of the party's activity in the international arena."

The congress proclaimed that the central direction of the Soviet Union's foreign policy for the years ahead is to be the struggle to implement the program put forward in the CPSU Central Committee general secretary's 15 January 1986 statement for destroying weapons of mass extermination and averting the danger of war. The implementation of this program of historic scale and significance would offer mankind a fundamentally different direction of development and an opportunity to concentrate solely on creation.

There is no alternative to this policy. The character of modern weapons allows no state the hope of defending itself solely by military-technical means. Not one state. The continuation of the arms race on earth, and in particular its extension into space, would accelerate the already critically high pace of the stockpiling and improvement of nuclear and other types of weapons, with the result that even parity would cease to be a factor for military-political deterrence. Yes, it is time to give relations among states a foundation more durable than weapons. Those people who want to progress into the future cannot and must not sit on the nuclear powder keg.

Identical security is the obligatory command of the times. The Soviet Union, whose military doctrine is solely defensive in nature, is the most convinced opponent of nuclear war in any form. Our country advocates that all types of weapons of mass destruction be removed from use and that military potentials be limited to the bounds of reasonable adequacy. But the character and level of that limit continue to be determined by the positions and actions of the United States and its bloc partners. But as the congress resolutely and unambiguously stressed, the Soviet Union does not lay claim to greater security but nor will it accept diminished security.

The preconditions for improving the international situation which have begun to take shape recently do not yet in themselves represent a turning point. The arms race continues. The threat of nuclear war remains. There are still those in the international community who lay claim to a special form of security adapted to their needs alone. Washington's attitude demonstrates that fact. People there still appeal to strength, which continues to be seen as the most convincing argument in world politics. Clearly, some people on the Potomac are simply afraid of the opportunity that has materialized for a serious, long-term thaw in Soviet-U.S. relations and in the international atmosphere as a whole.

The situation is not new. The forces of militarism and aggression even now would prefer the perpetuation of confrontation. "But what else can we do, comrades? Slam the door shut?" M.S. Gorbachev said in his speech at the congress' closing session. "It is not out of the question that this is what we are being pushed into doing. But we are perfectly well aware of our responsibility for the fate of the country, the fate of peace. And for that reason, we do not intend to play into the hands of those who want to accustom mankind to the nuclear threat and the arms race."

Not to slam the door shut to peace talks but to firmly lock the door leading to war -- that is our task and our duty. International reaction is powerful, but not all-powerful. The development of the world revolutionary process and the rise of mass democratic and antiwar movements have considerably expanded and intensified the vast potential for peace, reason, and good will which serves as a powerful counterbalance to imperialism's aggressive policy.

Now the fate of peace and social progress are more closely linked than ever with the dynamism of the world socialist system's economic and political development. The congress expressed its unwavering belief in socialism's ability to resolve the most complex tasks and noted the increasingly active cooperation among the socialist countries, which promotes the acceleration of common progress.

Yes, socialism and peace, peace and creation are indissoluble. Socialism would not be fulfilling its historic mission if it did not spearhead the struggle to rid mankind of the burden of war alerts and violence. Security and a just peace for all peoples are Soviet foreign policy's main goal.

In the acute and dynamic confrontation between progress and reaction, the trend toward a change in the correlation of forces in the international arena in favor of peace is gaining ground. This trend is stable and in principle irreversible. The 27th CPSU Congress not only demonstrated this trend but also give it a powerful new impetus. The call for peace which resounded from the Kremlin's Palace of Congresses and the path to peace outlined by our party's supreme forum found unanimous support among the Soviet people. They were received with sympathy by all peace-loving mankind. They contain hope and the future belongs to them.

BELORUSSIA, UKRAINE CIRCULATE PROTEST NOTES AT UN

LD142013 Moscow TASS in English 2001 GMT 14 Mar 86

[Text] New York March 14 TASS -- Notes lodged by the permanent missions of the Belorussian S.S.R. and the Ukrainian S.S.R. to the United Nations with the U.S. Permanent Mission to the United Nations were circulated at the U.N. as official documents of the U.N. General Assembly. The notes express strong protest against the illegitimate demand of the United States concerning the cut in the number of the personnel of the missions.

PRO-U.S. REGIMES SAID TO BE 'COLLAPSING'

LD142327 Moscow Television Service in Russian 1545 GMT 14 Mar 86

[Report from "The World Today" program presented by Aleksandr Zholkver]

[Text] Again and again, one's attention is drawn to the activities of profascist, militarist forces in a number of Western Europe countries. These forces were quite active during the tumultuous campaign in Spain before the referendum just held regarding its NATO membership. Now, more and more reports are coming in about the kinds of methods -- including crude pressure and direct blackmail -- which were used by representatives of the United States and other NATO countries, especially the FRG, to try and secure Spain's remaining in the Atlantic military bloc.

It is noteworthy that immediately after the referendum, British Lord Carrington, NATO's secretary general, expressed disatisfaction at a press conference over the fact that the Spanish Government has nonetheless not agreed to fully include its armed forces in the bloc's military organization. Carrington immediately let it be known that with regard to Spain, the NATO leadership intends to operate with the same methods as, for example, in relation to Norway. This country, as is known, has also hedged around its NATO membership with certain conditions, in particular the nondeployment of atomic weapons on its territory. Practice shows, however, that the NATO command is drawing Norway deeper and deeper into its military plans. Major winter NATO maneuvers have just been held here. During these exercises, 16 Norwegian soldiers died tragically in an avalanche.

May I remind you that the United States uses not only the NATO countries, but also many other countries as bridgeheads for the deployment and military training of its troops. For example, major exercises of all U.S. Armed Forces are being held now in South Korea and off its coast. In this connection, observers point to the similarity between the situations in South Korea and the Philippines. In both places the main factor determining Washington's policy toward these states is the presence on their territories of major U.S. military bases.

This fact to no small degree contributes to the activization of anti-U.S. protests in these countries. In order to cool them down, Washington, as is known, recently resorted to changing the government in the Philippines. Now many people are wondering: What will happen in South Korea, where protests are growing both against the U.S. placeman, the dictator Chon Tu-hwan, and in general against the pro-U.S. course of the Seoul regime. The U.S. magazine, NEWSWEEK gloomily admits: It did not take long for the waves of change to roll from the Philippines to the shores of another Asian country with a totalitarian regime. Yes, pro-U.S. dictatorial regimes evidently are collapsing all over the world, from the Philippines and South Korea to Haiti and El Salvador.

WEST CALLS CRIMINALS 'CHAMPION OF HUMAN RIGHTS'

LD142302 Moscow TASS in English 2243 GMT 14 Mar 86

[Text] Moscow March 14 TASS -- TASS political news analyst Boris Chekhonin writes: It is not surprising when such radio stations as the "Liberty" and "Free Europe" try to pass off criminal offenders as "champions of human rights". It is too obvious who inspires their broadcasts. But one cannot but be surprised when the French LE MONDE with its claims to objective reporting, or even official Washington attempt to do the same.

Take the latest example, a special message of the head of the U.S. Administration read out late last January at a reception held by Americans of the Ukrainian origin in Washington. The message says that such champions of human rights in the Ukraine as Josif Terelya have to serve lengthy terms of prison merely for the fact that they proclaim their faith and the fundamental principles of freedom and democracy.

So, according to the head of the White House, Josif Terelya is absolutely innocent. But what about the real character of that "advocate of religious freedoms and democracies"? The records of the investigation and trials stood by Josif Terelya make up nine bulky files and make nauseous reading.

Josif Terelya was first imprisoned early in the early sixties along with his brother Boris. And he landed in prison not at all for the struggle to defend human rights. Quite the oppposite, for infringing on those rights and for encroaching on private property. Having stolen firearms, the brothers staged a series of armed robberies for which they were condemned. Dwellers of the Ukrainian town of Svalyava -- Yemelyan Shtern, Geogiy Gsteletskiy, and Maria Rusin, became victims of the criminals at that time. This information can be checked with the victims even now. The testimonies of the victims feature also in the recordings of Josif Terelya's criminal case. By the way, Josif's brother, Boris Terelya, having committed subsequently a number of new crimes and killed Ya. Kuzma, a resident of the Transcarpathian region, put up armed resistance when being detained in 1982 and was killed in a shootout with militiamen.

From 1963 to 1983, Josif Terelya, whom the West now presents as a champion of human rights, committed a number of criminal offenses and was brought to court. And he was tried for crimes, not for faith or protecting human rights. After serving time, he shirked socially useful work persistently.

Having realised that the lot of a robber and thief holds out little promise, Josif Terelya decided to assume the role of a religious man and protector of the right of believers, even though he admitted to his friends that he has no faith in God. The latter-day preacher set about concocting slanderous materials and passing them on to the West. It is for this that the inveterate criminal was sentenced to the deprivation of freedom in August 1985.

Thus, Terelya, a robber and parasite, became a slanderer of his native country and his people. And this man is declared in the West almost as a saint of the so-called Ukrainian Uniate Church, which, by the way, dissolved itself in the Soviet Union way

back in 1946 for the reason that its leadership had compromised itself by collaboration with fascist invaders during World War Two.

UN HUMAN RIGHTS COMMISSION SESSION ENDS

PM161825 Moscow PRAVDA in Russian 16 Mar 86 First Edition p 5

[TASS report: "Stop the Encroachments: UN Human Rights Commission Session Ends"]

[Text] Geneva, 15 Mar -- The 42d session of the UN Human Rights Commission has ended here after demonstrating convincingly that the world community resolutely condemns the flagrant, mass violations of human rights and basic freedoms by the reactionary regimes in southern Africa and Central and South America, and by Israel in the occupied Arab territories.

The participants in the session representing the socialist countries and many of the developing countries noted frankly that these human rights violations are the result of the policy of the forces of imperialism and reaction, which interfere brazenly in the internal affairs of sovereign states and wage undeclared wars against the DRA, revolutionary Nicaragua, Angola, and Cambodia.

The resolutions adopted by the session severely censure the policy pursued by the reactionary regimes of Chile, El Salvador, Paraguay, and certain other countries where violations of human rights and basic freedoms, far from stopping, have actually increased recently.

The commission reaffirmed the peoples' right to self-determination and came out against interference in the internal affairs of independent states and against flagrant encroachments on human rights.

The work of this session took place in the midst of the somewhat acute struggle caused by the desire of the United States and a number of its allies in the aggressive NATO bloc to use it as a platform for organizing a provocative slander campaign against Afghanistan, Cambodia, Ethiopia, and certain other countries.

The constructive progress of the session was promoted largely by the active, assertive position of the delegations of the socialist countries and many developing countries, which made joint efforts in defense of human rights and the cause of peace and exposed the intrigues of the United States and other Western countries.

SOVIET UN ASSOCIATION BOARD ELECTS CHAIRMAN

PM131655 Moscow IZVESTIYA in Russian 13 Mar 86 Morning Edition p 5

[TASS report: "Session Held"]

[Text] A session of the Soviet UN Association Board was held in Moscow 11 March. Tasks concerned with the association's activity in 1986-1987 were examined and questions involving its participation in the movement in support of the United Nations in International Year of Peace were discussed. The session participants spoke of the great significance of the provisions of the CPSU Central Committee's Political Report to the 27th party congress, which are aimed at creating an all-embracing international security system, removing the nuclear threat, ending the arms race, and preserving and consolidating world peace on the basis of peaceful coexistence among states with different sociopolitical systems. Note was taken of the importance of mobilizing broad sections of the world public in support of the program to eliminate nuclear weapons by the year 2000 expounded in M.S. Gorbachev's statement.

The board elected Academician G.A. Arbatov chairman of the Soviet UN Association Board.

TASS COMMENTS ON REAGAN'S TELEVISION ADDRESS

LD170835 Moscow TASS in English 0830 GMT 17 Mar 86

["Anti-Nicaraguan Statement by American President" -- TASS item identifier]

[Text] Washington March 17 TASS -- By TASS correspondent Nikolay Turkatenko.

U.S. President Ronald Reagan in his televised speech has resorted to slander and concoctions with a view to pressing Congress into allocating 100 million dollars in military aid to the Somocistas whom he described as "freedom-fighters."

The President's speech was reminiscent of the script of the controversial anti-communist film "Red Dawn." The cheap movie, shot on money of reactionaries, describes an "invasion of the United States" by Nicaraguan, Cuban and Soviet Armed Forces via Mexican territory. Reagan described a similar situation. Intimidating the American legislators and general public, the President claimed that Nicaragua, situated thousands of kilometers from the United States, threatens the national security of the Unites States and is becoming a "mortal threat ot the entire new world."

Nicaragua, he alleged, jointly with the Soviet Union and Cuba, is planning to "become the dominant power in the crucial corridor between North and South America," wants to threaten the Panama Canal, "interdict our vital Caribbean sea lanes" and then "move against Mexico."

Demanding that congressmen realize their historic responsibility and immediately allocate 100 million dollars in military aid to the "contras," Reagan blamed Nicaragua yet one more time for rampant terrorism in Central America.

The President assured viewers that the United States has no plans to use its Armed Forces against Nicaragua. It allegedly seeks a "peaceful settlement." Local observers noticed, however, that Reagan not only demanded increased aid to the "contras," but also called for the prevention of "a communist takeover of Central America." He asserted that a deep water port and the "largest military air field in Central America" are being built in Nicaragua. Indicatively, the President resorted to the same "line of argument" prior to the U.S. invasion of Grenada.

The Nicaraguan Embassy in Washington has distributed a statement describing the U.S. President's speech as a sleazy trick with a view to enlisting support for direct armed interference by the United States in Nicaragua, to provoking a bloody war throughout Central America.

Reagan's statement has been criticized by several American congressmen. Senator Jim Sasser (Democrat, Tennessee) said that the president obviously prefers military solutions. Thomas O'Neill, leader of the Democratic majority in the House of Representatives, demanded peace initiatives, rather than kindling of the conflict.

The U.S. NEWS AND WORLD REPORT points out that the White House's militarist course with regard to Nicaragua generates extensive discontent and alarm both in the United States and throughout Latin America. THE WASHINGTON POST newspaper stresses that the Americans are concerned over the prospects of U.S. involvement in a Central American war, and the constant growth of military spending in general and increased allocations for the "contras," in particular at a time when American citizens are told to tighten their belts.

Congressional voting on the administration's request for 100 million dollars in military aid to the "contras" is slated for this week. Leading congressmen from the two parties predict a keen struggle not only around the sum but also around Washington's dangerous militarist course in Central America.

REGAN CITED ON AIM TO 'TOPPLE' SANDINIST REGIME

LD160648 Moscow TASS in English 0644 GMT 17 Mar 86

[Text] New York March 17 TASS -- The Reagan administration aims to topple the Nicaraguan Government by using counter-revolutionary gangs as a proxy, White House Chief of Staff Donald Regan said bluntly on NBC television.

He accused the Sandinist government of being "aggressive" and said, "We must get rid of it in some way or another." "What we want to do," Regan explained, "is to try to help those who are trying to overthrow" the Nicaraguan Government and "allow that nation to have the leaders that they should have." In other words, the leaders that would suit the United States.

He said the U.S. Administration was "going all out" to secure congressional approval for 100 million dollars in military aid to the "contras" and that it would not make any compromises on the issue.

Regan made no bones about admitting that Washington was seeking the same results in Nicaragua as it had brought about in Grenada, whose independence and sovereignty have been crushed by a U.S. invasion force. He confirmed at the same time that the U.S. Administration did not have any intention to "destabilize" or "topple" the Pinochet regime in Chile.

WHITE HOUSE SEEKS CONTRA AID 'AT ALL COSTS'

PM140931 Moscow PRAVDA in Russian 13 Mar 86 First Edition p 5

[Own correspondent V. Gan dispatch: "Campaigning for the Right To Commit Piracy"]

[Text] Washington, 12 Mar -- The American capital has been overwhelmed by a most acute political confrontation between the White House and the U.S. Congress. The discord centers on the Reagan administration's intention to persuade the legislators at all costs to allocate $100 million for military and economic aid to Nicaraguan "contras."

The opposition to the President's request on Capitol Hill is of a bipartisan nature -- which in itself is a pretty rare phenomenon. Making a quite realistic assessment of the situation in Central America, senators and members of the House of Representatives voice open concern at Washington's interventionist policy of seeking to overthrow the Nicaraguan Government. Fears are being voiced with increasing frequency on the banks of the Potomac that support for terrorists trained and controlled by the CIA will inevitably lead to direct American armed interference. As the CHRISTIAN SCIENCE MONITOR writes in this connection, "many people in Congress regard aid for the 'contras' not as an alternative to sending U.S. troops but as a magnet that will one day certainly draw American Armed Forces into the conflict." On a wave of such sentiments a number of House committees have already rejected the administration's claim.

The President and his entourage, however, are continuing stubbornly to pursue their policy of stepping up interference in the affairs of Sandino's country. A single-minded campaign is being conducted to "twist the arms" of the legislators -- a campaign headed by the master of the White House. Republican leaders are constantly being "carpeted" at his residence; the President personally telephones "undecided" senators and members of the House of Representatives.

At the same time, displaying an obvious lack of imagination, administration spokesman can find nothing better to do than to intimidate Congress, and the whole country along with it, with the specter of the fabricated "communist threat." Everything is employed -- anti-Soviet fabrications, slander, and all kinds of falsehoods. P. Buchanan, White House director of communications, has gone so far as to publicly badger opponents of aid to the "contras," ascribing "communist sympathies" to them. He declared in a CBS TV interview, for example, that "a vote against the President is equivalent to a vote for communism."

Senators P. Leahy, T. Harkin, P. Simon, M. Hatfield, C. Dodd, L. Weicker dealt a resolute rebuff to the unseemly attacks and blackmail at a press conference held today. Sharply condemning the administration's McCarthyite methods, they pointed out that White House policy with regard to Nicaragua is pushing the United States onto the slippery and dangerous path of direct aggression. Calling the "contras" a gang of "rebels headed by Somocista guardsmen, mercenaries, and adventurers," Senator P. Leahy declared that growing U.S. interference threatens to turn all of Central America into a battlefield on which, sooner or later, American boys will be sent to die.

The legislators' sensible arguments and the appeals to abandon the shameful course are arrogantly ignored by the administration. Speaking at a meeting with a group of journalists, President Reagan categorically ruled out any possibility of a "compromise" with Congress. The president claimed that Americans "did not understand" the White House policy, which he intends to "explain" in his speech on national television next Sunday.

All this means that in the days remaining until the decisive vote in the House of Representatives scheduled for 19 March the administration will throw all possible and impossible levers to exert pressure and push through its request. Although it is hard to predict the final outcome of the clash, it is clear that the White House has already demonstrated adequately that it is not the least interested in seeking a peaceful solution to the conflict in Central America either by way of bilateral talks with Nicaragua or with the Contadora Group's help. On the Potomac they advocate state terrorism and the right to commit international piracy.

'DISINFORMATION' SEEN IN CONTRA AID CAMPAIGN

LD151456 Moscow Domestic Service in Russian 1030 GMT 15 Mar 86

[Vyacheslav Lavrentyev commentary]

[Text] The U.S. Government has unleashed a massive campaign of disinformation and intimidation in its attempt by hook or by crook to persuade Congress to allocate $100 million to the Nicaraguan contras. At the microphone is commentator Vyacheslav Lavrentyev:

I would remind you that last year the administration had great difficulty in persuading Congress to allocate $26 million to the Nicaraguan counterrevolutionaries that Washington is using to wage war against the Sandinist government.

This money did not lead to victory for counterrevolution. It brought only new suffering for the people of Nicaragua. Now this year Reagan is asking the legislators to shell out four times as much.

In the past year some congressmen have become convinced that this aid will not save the contras from ultimate defeat and others that the Somozist cutthroats have nothing at all in common with fighters for freedom and democracy as the U.S. Administration tries to present them. Thus, the presidential request this time has come up against unusually strong opposition. The vote in the Congress is to be held on 19 March and the administration is now pulling out all the stops to correct the situation currently unfavorable to it.

Shuttle emissary Philip Habib, who has been appointed the President's special envoy to Central America, has hurriedly visited El Salvador, Honduras, and Guatemala. A large group of congressmen is now flying to Central America in order to bring to Washington by Wednesday heart-rending stories about the calamitous position of the contras that will help the administration win over intractable congressmen. At the same time, THE WASHINGTON POST writes, the administration resorting to extensive attempts to discredit authoritative research that depicts the brutalities and human rights violations by the Nicaraguan counterrevolutionaries. That is, the White House is doing everything it can to wring out the money to continue its aggressive course in Central America. Buchanan, White House director of communications, even went so far as to say quite bluntly: Voting against aid to the contras is the same as voting for the communists. In reply to this Senator Hatfield noted that there was a time when opposition to the Vietnam war was equated with a lack of patriotism.

U.S. EMBASSY OFFICIAL DECLARED PERSONA NON GRATA

LD141746 Moscow TASS in English 1735 GMT 14 Mar 86

[Text] Moscow March 14 TASS -- Michael Sellers, second secretary of the U.S. Embassy, was detained in Moscow on March 10 in flagrante delicto as he was having a clandestine meeting with a Soviet citizen recruited by U.S. intelligence. Another espionage operation by U.S. secret services against the Soviet Union was cut short.

An investigation produced evidence fully implicating the staff member of the U.S. Embassy in intelligence-gathering activities incompatible with his official status. For his unlawful spying activities Sellers was declared persona non-grata.

An investigation is under way in the case of the arrested agent of U.S. intelligence.

ARTICLE CONSIDERS ROLE OF '208 COMMITTEE'

PM161449 Moscow IZVESTIYA in Russian 11 Mar 86 Morning Edition p 4

[Report by own correspondent A. Palladin: "Behind the Sabotage Scenes": "What Is the '208 Committee' Up To?"]

[Text] Washington -- A group of local officials regularly meets in a building adjoining the White House. The group is named for the room in which it meets -- the "208 Committee."

The ideas and recommendations elaborated by the committee are submitted for approval by the White House chief, whose signature gives U.S. special services the "right" to interfere in the lives of millions of people living on the other side of the world. A flourish of the President's pen brings them terror, plots, sabotage, and often, death.

The "208 Committee," whose existence and functions were revealed by THE WASHINGTON POST, is the brainchild of the R. Reagan administration. Set up on the lines of the "40 Committee" (an interagency body in charge of covert operations under Nixon), the committee's roots go back to the immediate postwar years when Washington took on board the doctrine of "rolling back communism." Now, THE WASHINGTON POST writes, the White House is trying to achieve the same aim, using the old slogans of freedom and democracy as camouflage. Not for nothing is CIA Director William Casey enjoying unprecedented influence in the U.S. Government at the moment. His role -- and I quote THE WASHINGTON POST again -- is comparable only to that of Allen Dulles, who was boss of the "cloak and dagger knights" 30 years ago.

The "Reagan doctrine," to use White House propaganda chief Patrick Buchanan's term for the revived policy of the past, is geared to suppressing national liberation movements and stifling victorious revolutions. In other words, the present U.S. Administration is striving to "cure" the developing states of the "virus of independence" by means of the therapy that was used in the case of Grenada.

The White House and its chief, THE WASHINGTON POST stresses, are absolutely obsessed with the idea of "rolling back communism." The other day the U.S. President graphically demonstrated this by appearing before the press in a shirt bearing the inscription "Stop Communism in Central America." Reagan's crusade against the forces of progress and genuine democracy constitutes the essence of his administration's foreign policy. That is why, THE WASHINGTON POST observes, the CIA's annual budget is now higher than at any time since the "dirty war" against the peoples of Indochina, and the chief of this espionage and sabotage department, Casey, has been given practically unlimited scope to satisfy "his well-known passion for covert operations."

And the White House chief is known for, among other things, his passion for Hollywood, whose images and snappy expressions he often borrows when describing real events. A month ago, when he was delivering the "State of the Union" message, he commented on his policy using the name of the popular movie "Back to the Future." But the facts provide irrefutable evidence that the "Reagan doctrine" leads forward ... into the past.

[The report is accompanied by the following information printed in boldface in a separate box: The members of the "208 Committee" include Donald Fortier, the President's deputy national security affairs adviser; Clair George, head of the CIA's secret operations department; Michael Armacost, under secretary of state; Fred Ikle, under secretary of defense, and Morton Abramowitz, director of the Bureau of Intelligence and Research at the State Department.]

POSNER RECALLS ROW OVER APPEARANCE ON ABC

LD151556 Moscow Television Service in Russian 1610 GMT 14 Mar 86

[Vladimir Posner commentary from the "World and Youth" program]

[Text] During the proceedings of the congress, I was accredited to the press center of the congress, and I met a lot with fellow journalists from different countries, including U.S. journalists.

I must say that they were very interested in the congress, but they were particularly interested in the part of the Political Report of the Central Committee dealing with the Soviet Union's foreign policy and the Soviet Union's proposals aimed at ridding the world of nuclear weapons by the year 2000. In the context of this report and this proposal, the U.S. ABC television corporation invited me to listen to, and then on American television to comment on, president Reagan's speech to the nation in which he called for an increase in this year's defense budget.

I naturally accpeted the invitation. And I must say plainly that I voiced a certain amount of disagreement with a number of points in this speech, which, in my view, was geared only to the arms race and not at all to disarmament, let alone to seeing that by the year 2000 we will be able to live without the fear of nuclear annihilation. You would have thought everything was fine: A Soviet person had expressed his views, and that is in actual fact what ABC had wanted. But it only seemed that way. A storm erupted in America. The U.S. President spoke up quite sharply against the Soviet journalist's appearance on U.S. television. White House officials and certain members of the U.S. Congress made even sharper remarks: Things went so far that they started to use, let's say, nonparliamentary expressions.

But good luck to them. In my view, a very important and serious question arises here. A very great deal is said in America about the needs for a free exchange of views, even more is said about freedom of speech; there is talk of the need for the two peoples to know each other better. A situation arose in which certain thoughts were expressed that the President and the White House did not like and all the words about freedom of speech were forgotten, all the words about the exchange of views were forgotten. What is more, the pressure was so great that ABC, an independent, free company, made its apologies to the President.

I ask myself, what will happen now? In particular, how are we going to conduct our relations with the Americans? You saw the Leningrad-Seattle telebridge, and you saw for yourselves how our people and the Americans strive to get to know each other, how they want to talk. It was the first bridge widely shown in the United States. And will any more bridges be shown? There is no doubt, you see, that opinions and views that are not to the White House's liking will be expressed, just as on the U.S. side, I might add, views are expressed that are not to the liking of our government. But we have shown the bridges, we showed this one. And I can vouch for the fact that we will continue to show them. But what about over there? Will we be able to survive to the year 2000 if we cannot talk to each other? These are very serious questions. And the fact that Americans want to learn more and to maintain contacts is unequivocally true.

MEESE TO DELIVER MESSAGE TO AFGHAN INSURGENTS

LD151426 Moscow World Service in English 1200 GMT 15 Mar 86

[Text] The U.S. attorney general, Edwin Meese, is beginning a tour of several countries, which will take him to a camp of Afghan counterrevolutionaries located in Pakistan close to Afghanistan's border. He is to deliver a personal message from President Reagan to the bandits, said a spokesman for the Department of Justice. The voyage of Edwin Meese belongs to the series of provocative trips made by high-ranking Washington officials to the terrorists for the purpose of coordinating the undeclared war against Afghanistan. According to the American press, this year alone the Reagan administration is planning to supply the bandits with at least $470 million worth of advanced weapons.

REPORTAGE ON ARKHIPOV VISIT TO BEIJING

OW160350 Moscow in Mandarin to China 1600 GMT 15 Mar 86

[Text] The Soviet delegation headed by Ivan Arkhipov, first deputy chairman of the USSR Council of Ministers, arrived in Beijing on 15 March. The delegation will take part in the first meeting of the Soviet-Chinese Economic, Trade, and Scientific and Technical Committee.

Upon arrival, Arkhipov spoke at the airport. He said: The Soviet Union steadfastly advocates the improvement of relations with its great neighbor China. The Soviet delegation head said: There is a great potential for developing trade between the two countries. He emphatically pointed out that the development of cooperation accords with the interests of both countries.

As pointed out by Comrade Gorbachev of the CPSU Central Committee in his Political Report to the 27th CPSU Congress, it is possible that the Soviet Union and China can coordinate together in many fields on an equal and principled basis without hurting a third country.

Reception Held

PM171053 Moscow PRAVDA in Russian 17 Mar 86 First Edition p 5

[TASS report: "In Honor of the Soviet Delegation"]

[Text] Beijing, 16 Mar -- PRC State Council Deputy Premier Li Peng gave a reception in honor of the Soviet delegation headed by USSR Council of Ministers First Deputy Chairman I.V. Arkhipov, which arrived in Beijing today to attend the first session of the Soviet-Chinese commission on economic, trade, and scientific-technical cooperation.

As a result of joint efforts by both sides, Li Peng noted in his speech, recent years have seen a marked revival of trade between the two countries and a resumption of economic and scientific-technical cooperation. A good foundation has been laid. We noted that the 27th CPSU Congress outlined measures aimed at accelerating scientific-technical progress. This will create favorable conditions for the further development of trade and economic ties between the Soviet Union and China. The government and people of the PRC value the Soviet people's friendly feelings. In this connection, the speaker noted the need to make an effort to remove obstacles in relations between the two countries.

I.V. Arkhipov then spoke, stressing the historic significance of the 27th CPSU Congress for the the entire activity of the party and Soviet state. He pointed out the importance of the USSR's foreign policy initiatives geared to ensuring that mankind greets the year 2000 under a peaceful sky and space. The Soviet delegation leader expressed satisfaction in connection with the definite improvement in mutual relations between the Soviet Union and its great neighbor, socialist China, and with the continuing development of Soviet-Chinese ties and contacts which are acquiring increasing scope and becoming increasingly diverse.

Noting that the implementation of the long-term Soviet-Chinese agreements signed in December 1984 and July 1985 will be a considerable contribution to this process, the first deputy chairman of the USSR Council of Ministers expressed confidence that the present talks in Beijing will be successful and fruitful and the results of the commission's work will be a fine stimulus to more effective Soviet-Chinese business ties and the improvement of their forms and will make them more varied and dynamic.

Commission Begins Session

LD160913 Moscow TASS International Service in Russian 0840 GMT 16 Mar 86

[Text] Beijing, 16 Mar (TASS) -- The first sitting of the Soviet-Chinese Commission for Economic, Trade, and Scientific and Technical Cooperation opened here today. The Soviet side is represented at the talks by Ivan Arkhipov, USSR Council of Ministers first deputy chairman and chairman of the Soviet part of the commission; the Chinese side is represented by Li Peng, PRC State Council vice premier and chairman of the Chinese part of the commission.

Ivan Arkhipov informed the commission of the main decisions of the 27th CPSU Congress and of the Soviet Union's economic and foreign policy strategy, as worked out at the congress. The Soviet delegation head drew attention in his speech to CPSU Central Committee General Secretary Mikhail Gorbachev's statement in the CPSU Central Committee in the political document to the congress regarding Soviet-Chinese relations.

The Chinese delegation head spoke of the course of reorganizing the economic structure in the process of PRC socialist construction.

The commission is examining a wide range of issues relating to the practical implementation of the agreement between the USSR and PRC Governments on trade turnover and payments of the 28 December, 1984, Soviet-Chinese agreement on economic and technical cooperation; of the agreement between the USSR and PRC Governments on economic and technical cooperation in the construction and reconstruction of facilities in the PRC; and of the agreement on scientific and technical cooperation. The discussion is being held in a business-like and constructive atmosphere.

CPSU VIEWS FURTHER PRC RELATIONS 'SIGNIFICANT'

OW161047 Moscow Radio Peace and Progress in Mandarin to China 0400 GMT 14 Mar 86

[Glebov commentary]

[Excerpts] Listeners: The CPSU thinks that further development of Soviet-Chinese cooperative relations is of great significance. The Political Report of the 27th CPSU National Congress emphatically pointed out: The reserves for cooperation between the Soviet Union and China are enormous. They are great because such cooperation is in the interests of both countries and because what is most dear to our people -- socialism and peace -- are indivisible. Glebov, our station observer, has the following comments on such cooperation: The Soviet Union and China had a glorious tradition of cooperation. A clear proof of this fact is that the Soviet Union gave tremendous aid to China in the fifties to help it build a socialist economic foundation. In the late fifties and early sixties, Soviet-Chinese relations gradually became complicated. Nevertheless, the Soviet Union was not to blame for the change. Imperialist cliques openly praised the change.

Recently, our two countries have gradually removed the shadows cast on our bilateral relations. Deputy heads of Soviet and Chinese Governments have exchanged visits for the first time in many years and signed agreements on trade, further exchanges of visits, and economic and technological cooperation. The Soviet Union will take part in building 7 and rebuilding 17 facilities in China in accordance with the cooperation agreements. The two countries are increasing cultural and sports contacts according to plans. The relations between Soviet and Chinese mass organizations are also developing steadily.

The Political Report of the CPSU Central Committee pointed out: One can speak with satisfaction about a certain improvement in the Soviet Union's relations with its great neighbor, socialist China.

Differences in approaches remain, particularly toward a series of international problems. There is, however, something else we note: The possibility in many cases of working jointly, or acting together on the basis of principle and equal rights without prejudice to third countries.

The Soviet people hope that the positive trend in the Soviet-Chinese relations will develop further. We believe that this conforms to the interests of the two countries, their peoples, and all other people who treasure peace and socialism.

REPORT ON MOSCOW SOIREE FOR CPC'S LIN BOJU

PM170945 Moscow PRAVDA in Russian 13 Mar 86 First Edition p 5

[TASS report: "In Memory of Lin Boju"]

[Text] A soiree marking the centennial of the birth of Lin Boju, a prominent CPC figure, was held at the House of Friendship with the Peoples of Foreign Countries on 11 March.

The soiree was opened by Academician S.L. Tikhvinskiy, chairman of the Central Board of the Soviet-Chinese Friendship Society Speakers, Tilchvinskiy observed that Lin Boju possessed outstanding abilities as a revolutionary and organizer and was throughout his life true to the cause of revolutionary struggle and Marxist-Leninist teaching. At the Eighth CCP Congress (1956), he was elected a member of the CPC Central Committee Politburo and was vice chairman of the Standing Committee of the National People's Congress and deputy chairman of the Central Board of the Chinese-Soviet Friendship Society. Lin Boju called for "the friendly cohesion of China and the Sovet Union to be resolutely and steadily strengthened." He is remembered by Soviet people as a communist, internationalist, and supporter of friendship between China and the USSR. Members of the board and activists of the society; representatives of the Moscow city public, Li Zewang, Chinese ambassador to the USSR; and other Chinese embassy officials attended the event.

PRC CONFERENCE CONDEMNS 'NEGATIVE PHENOMENA'

PM141111 Moscow SOVETSKAYA ROSSIYA in Russian 13 Mar 86 First Edition p 3

[TASS report: "Conference in Beijing"]

[Text] Beijing, 12 Mar -- According to XINHUA, an all-China conference on political-legal work has been held in Beijing. It was emphasized at the conference that the development of legislation and the reinforcement of Law and order are the main guarantee of the reforms that are being implemented in the country.

It was noted in speeches that the number of crimes committed in the PRC during 1984-1985 had decreased. At the same time conference participants drew attention to the fact that public order is unsatisfactory in a number of districts and that negative, objectionable phenomena have again begun to appear.

The conference participants called on the relevant state organizations to step up their struggle against the bourgeois ideology which is seeping through and against the negative phenomena which have spread in the chinese society during the period of the "open door" policy.

REPORTAGE ON RYZHKOV'S VISIT TO SWEDEN

Moscow Departure

PM142015 Moscow IZVESTIYA in Russian 15 Mar 86 Morning Edition p 1

[TASS report: "Departure of Soviet Delegation for Sweden"]

[Text] A Soviet Government delegation headed by N.I. Ryzhkov, member of the CPSU Central Committee Politburo and chairman of the USSR Council of Ministers left Moscow for Stockholm on 14 March.

The delegation comprises V.F. Maltsev, USSR first deputy foreign minister, and B.D. Pankin, USSR ambassador to Sweden.

The delegation will participate in the mourning ceremony in connection with the funeral of Swedish Prime Minister Olof Palme.

The delegation was seen off at the airport by L.N. Zaykov, member of the CPSU Central Committee Politburo and secretary of the CPSU Central Committee; V.S. Murakhovskiy, first deputy chairman of the USSR Council of Ministers; USSR Council of Ministers Deputy Chairmen A.K. Antonov, G.I. Marchuk, and Ya. P. Ryabov; USSR Council of Ministers Administrator of Affairs M.S. Smirtyukov; USSR Ministers B.I. Aristov and B.P. Bugayev; K.F. Katushev, chairman of the State Committee for Foreign Economic Relations; M.S. Kapitsa, USSR deputy foreign minister; and other officials.

Among the sendoff party was (L.O. Nilson) Swedish charge d'affaires ad interim in the USSR. At Stockholm airport the delegation was met by B. Dahl, minister of energy and environmental protection.

Stockholm Arrival; Carlsson Remarks

LD150422 Moscow Television Service in Russian 1800 GMT 14 Mar 86

[Report by Boris Kalyagin in Stockholm from the "Vremya" newscast]

[Excerpt] The USSR Government delegation arrived in the capital of Sweden today. It is headed by Nikolay Ivanovich Ryzhkov. On behalf of the Soviet people and government, Comrade Ryzhkov expressed deep condolences to the Swedish people in connection with Olof Palme's tragic death.

Many Swedish prominent figures are emphasizing these days that the continuation of his policies will become the best memorial for Palme. This has also been confirmed by Ingvar Carlsson, new prime minister of the country. At his first press conference, he explained that Sweden will continue its struggle against the threat of nuclear war, for a ban on nuclear weapons testing and a freezing of their arsenals.

A question put forward by the "Vremya" program: The late Prime Minister Olof Palme was going to visit the Soviet Union in April. Are you, Mr Prime Minister, intending to take up this agreement and visit our country? What on the whole is your evaluation of Soviet-Swedish relations?

[Begin Carlsson recording in English with superimposed Russian translation by Kalyagin] I would like to visit the Soviet Union in the very near future. I will discuss this issue in detail with the chairman of the USSR Council of Ministers. I am hoping to achieve a concrete agreement with him on the time of the visit. Relations between Sweden and the Soviet Union are improving. The Swedish Government is interested in developing friendly relations and good contacts with the Soviet side. [end recording]

A meeting between Ingvar Carlsson, the prime minister, and Nikolay Ivanovich Ryzhkov has taken place tonight. The sides discussed the issues of bilateral relations and also topical issues of international politics.

Meets Carlsson

LD141956 Moscow TASS in English 1920 GMT 14 Mar 86

[Text] Stockholm March 14 TASS -- Chairman of the USSR Council of Ministers Nikolay Ryzhkov met here with Swedish Prime Minister Ingvar Carlsson. On behalf of the Soviet leadership Nikolay Ryzhkov convyed to Sweden's Government and people profound condolences upon Olof Palme's tragic death.

Questions of the further development of Soviet-Swedish relations, including contacts at a high political level, were discussed during the conversation. Both sides proclaimed the striving to deepen equal goodneighbourly cooperation between the USSR and Sweden.

Nilolay Ryzhkov informed Sweden's prime minister of the reply of General Secretary of the CPSU Central Committee Mikhail Gorbachev to the joint message of the leaders of six states and handed over to him the text of the message which contains the Soviet Union's new important proposal on the question of terminating nuclear tests.

Ingvar Carlsson declared that the Swedish Government intends to continue playing an active role in the struggle for peace and disarmament, also in the framework of the group of six states -- authors of the Delhi Declaration.

Present at the conversation that passed in the atmosphere of mutual understanding, were USSR First Deputy Foreign Minister Viktor Maltsev and USSR Ambassador to Sweden Boris Pankin, and from the Swedish side -- Foreign Minister Sten Andersson and General Secretary of the Foreign Ministry of Sweden Pierre Schorri.

Workers Communist Party Leaders

LD142002 Moscow TASS in English 1911 GMT 14 Mar 86

[Text] Stockholm March 14 TASS -- Nikolay Ryzhkov, a member of the Political Bureau of the CPSU Central Committee, chairman of the Council of Ministers of the U.S.S.R., who is now staying here, had a meeting with members of the leadership of the Swedish Workers Communist Party led by Rolf Hagel, chairman of the party's board. During the conversation that passed in a warm, comradely atmosphere the sides touched on questions of mutual interest, primarily, dealing with te common tasks of both parties in the effort to safeguard and strengthen peace and radically improve the international situation.

Rolf Hagel spoke highly of the restuls of the 27th Congress of the CPSU and on behalf of the party's leadership conveyed to the Soviet people and the CPSU wishes of success in implementing the decisions of the congress.

King, Business Representatives

LD151017 Moscow TASS in English 1005 GMT 15 Mar 86

[Text] Stockholm March 15 TASS -- Nikolay Ryzhkov, chairman of the USSR Council of Ministers, who is currently staying here, has paid a visit today to Swedish King Carl XVI Gustaf. The head of the Swedish state expressed gratitude for the participation of the high-ranking Soviet delegation in the mourning ceremony of the funeral of Olof Palme.

A conversation was held, in whose course some issue of Soviet-Swedish relations and topical international issues were touched upon.

The chairman of the USSR Council of Ministers was accompanied by USSR Ambassador to Sweden Boris Pankin.

Last night, Nikolay Ryzhkov met here with representatives of Swedish business circles, senior executives of the country's industrial and trade companies. In the course of the meeting, views were exchanged on issues pertaining to trade-economic and scientific-technological relations between Sweden and the USSR. The prospects for economic and social development of the USSR and the possibilities opening in this connection to Sweden's business circles, about which Nikolay Ryzhkov spoke, aroused much interest of the audience.

Both sides pointed out the topical significance of an active use of both traditional and new forms of mutually beneficial Soviet-Swedish cooperation, which is an important factor in strengthening mutual understanding between the two countries.

Talks With Gandhi

LD151436 Moscow TASS in English 1421 GMT 15 Mar 86

[Text] Stockholm March 15 TASS -- Nikolay Ryzhkov, chairman of the Council of Ministers of the U.S.S.R., met with Prime Minister Rajiv Gandhi of India here.

During the conversation that passed in an atmosphere of cordiality and mutual understanding they exchanged views on questions of mutual interests to both sides.

Nikolay Ryzhkov and Rajiv Gandhi expressed mutual satisfaction at the high level of development of Soviet-Indian relations that meet the vital interests of the peoples of both countries, peace and security in Asia and the world over.

Nikolay Ryzhkov took note of India's important role in the effort to end the arms race and eliminate the threat of nuclear war. He handed over Rajiv Gandhi the reply of Mikhail Gorbachev, general secretary of the CPSU Central Committee, to the leaders of six countries. The message sets forth a new Soviet initiative on the question of the termination of nuclear explosions.

Rajiv Gandhi spoke with appreciation of the efforts made by the U.S.S.R. in order to eliminate mass annihilation weapons completely by the end of the 20th century and bring about a radical improvement of the international situation.

The meeting was also attended from the Soviet side by Viktor Maltsev, first deputy minister of foreign affairs of the U.S.S.R., and ambassador of the U.S.S.R. to Sweden Boris Pankin, and from the Indian side by Minister of Industry Narayan Datt Tivari, and secretary for foreign affairs, Ministry of External Affairs of India, Romesh Bhandari, and secretary, Ministry of External Affairs, A.P. Venkatesvaran.

Confers With Ortega

LD151519 Moscow TASS in English 1501 GMT 15 Mar 86

[Text] Stockholm March 15 TASS -- Nikolay Ryzhkov, chairman of the Council of Ministers of the U.S.S.R., who arrived here for the funeral of slain Swedish Premier Olof Palme, met with Daniel Ortega, president of the Republic of Nicaragua, a member of the National Leadership of the Sandinista National Liberation Front.

During the conversation Nikolay Ryzhkov reaffirmed the solidarity of Soviet people with the people of Nicaragua who heroically defend their right to free and independent development. The U.S. Administration's course toward interference in the internal affairs of Central American countries was condemned and the need of scaling up international efforts in the interests of a just political settlement in that region was emphasized.

Daniel Ortega gave a high appraisal to the results of the 27th Congress of the CPSU and wished the Soviet people, its Leninist party and the Soviet Government every success in building communism and in strengthening peace. Viktor Maltsev, first deputy minister of foreign affairs of the U.S.S.R. and ambassador of the U.S.S.R. to Sweden Boris Pankin took part in the conversation from the Soviet side, and Miguel D'Escoto, minister of foreign affairs of Nicaragua, from the Nicaraguan side.

Shultz Meeting

LD151905 Moscow TASS in English 1850 GMT 15 Mar 86

[Text] Stockholm March 15 TASS -- Nikolay Ryzhkov, chairman of the Council of Ministers of the USSR, had a meeting with U.S. Secretary of State George Shultz at the Soviet Embassy here. In the course of their conversation the sides discussed some aspects of Soviet-U.S. relations and a number of international problems.

Attending the meeting for the Soviet side were V.F. Maltsev, first deputy minister of foreign affairs of the USSR, B.D. Pankin, the Soviet Union's ambassador to Sweden, and O.A. Grinevskiy, the leader of the Soviet delegation to the Stockholm Conference on Confidence- and Security-Building Measures and Disarmament in Europe, and for the American side, Rozanne Ridgway, assistant secretary of state for European and Canadian Affairs, and other officials.

Finnish President Koivisto

LD161211 Moscow TASS in English 1156 GMT 16 Mar 86

[Text] Stockholm March 16 TASS -- Nikolay Ryzhkov, chairman of the USSR Council of Ministers, met with President Mauno Koivisto of Finland in Stockholm on Saturday. During the conversation the sides expressed mutual satisfaction with the stable relations of mutual trust and friendship between the two countries, their advancement in the interests of the peoples of the Soviet Union and Finland, the cause of peace in Europe.

Both sides intend to continue paying special attention to deepening goodneighborliness and all-round cooperation. The need was stressed for universal efforts to curb the race of armaments, above all nuclear ones, prevent the militarization of outer space, eliminate the existing tension in the world and restore detente. Viktor Maltsev, first deputy foreign minister of the USSR, Boris Pankin, the USSR's ambassador to Sweden, and Bjern-Olaf Allholm, Finland's ambassador to Sweden, attended the conversation.

Swedish VPK Chairman

LD161232 Moscow TASS International Service in Russian 1200 GMT 16 Mar 86

[Text] Stockholm, 16 Mar (TASS) -- Nikolay Ryzhkov, CPSU Central Committee Politburo member and USSR Council of Ministers chairman who is staying here, met with Lars Werner, chairman of the Party of the Left (Communists) [VPK], and with other representatives of the VPK leadership today. At the meeting, which took place in a warm and comradely atmosphere, were CPSU Central Committee members First Deputy USSR Foreign Affairs Minister Viktor Maltsev, and the USSR Ambassador to Sweden Boris Pankin.

Meets Friendship Group

LD161406 Moscow TASS International Service in Russian 1203 GMT 16 Mar 86

[Text] Stockholm, 16 Mar (TASS) -- Today, Nikolay Ryzhkov, chairman of the USSR Council of Ministers received representatives of the Swedish public, active members of the union of Sweden-USSR friendship societies. The leaders of the union of societies spoke about

The work which their local organizations undertake in the dissemination of knowledge about the Soviet Union, its economy, science, and culture. They remarked that the 27th CPSU Congress Central Committee Political Report aroused the particular interest of Swedes. They expressed the opinion that the interests of the peoples of both countries would be served by the further development of Swedish-Soviet relations in the spirit of mutual understanding and good-neighborliness.

In the course of the friendly conversation, N. Ryzhkov acquainted the members of the union with the fundamental tasks in the thorough reorganization of all aspects of the life of the socialist society, toward the solution of which the labor and political activity of Soviet people has been directed. He wished the members of the union of Sweden-USSR friendship societies successes in their noble activity. Participating in the meeting was the honarary chairman of the union of Sweden-USSR friendship societies, holder of the international Lenin prize "for the strengthening of peace between the peoples," Eva Palmer.

Return to Moscow

LD161224 Moscow TASS in English 1220 GMT 16 Mar 86

[Text] Moscow March 16 TASS -- A Soviet Government delegation headed by Nikolay Ryzhkov, member of the Political Bureau of the CPSU Central Committee and chairman of the USSR Council of Ministers, returned to Moscow today. The delegation took part in the funeral of outstanding Swedish state and political figure Olof Palme. The delegation included First Deputy Foreign Minister of the USSR Viktor Maltsev and Soviet Ambassador to Sweden Boris Pankin. At the airport, the delegation was welcomed by Lev Zaykov, member of the Political Bureau of the CPSU Central Committee and secretary of the CPSU Central Committee, by other officials.

[Moscow Domestic Service in Russian at 1300 GMT on 16 March broadcasts a similar report which states; "At the Moscow airport the delegation was met by Comrade Zaykov, Politburo member, CPSU Central Committee secretary; Comrade Murakhovskiy. first deputy chairman of the USSR Council of Ministers; deputy chairman of the USSR Council of Ministers; leaders of a number of USSR ministries and departments; and other officials."]